

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. The method of making graphics for heat sealing application
2 to fabrics and hard surfaces comprising:
3 flooding the release surface of a release sheet with a heat
4 transfer ink in a liquid stage;
5 while the exposed surface of the ink is still in the liquid stage
6 applying thereto a thermoplastic adhesive;
7 causing the ink with the adhesive thereon to assume a solid
8 stage; and
9 thereafter kiss-cutting through the adhesive and ink to said
10 release surface of the release sheet to form the graphic.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is a screenprinting ink.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is applied as discrete
2 congruent patches.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the flooding of the release
2 surface by ink is by screenprinting the ink thereon.

- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is a water or solvent
2 based heat transferrable plastisol.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the kiss cutting is by laser
2 cutting wherein the power supplied to the cutter is sufficient to singe the ink along
3 the cut line only adjacent the adhesive to render the line readily visible for weeding.

- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is made of
2 paper with a release coating on one surface thereof.

- 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is paper with
2 a release coating on one side thereof.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the kiss-cutting is performed
2 by laser cutting with the power to the laser adjusted to singe the cut.

1 10. The method of claim 8 wherein the kiss-cutting is performed
2 successively on the patches on each release sheet.

1 11. The method of claim 8 wherein the flooding of the release
2 sheet with ink is by screenprinting successive areas of the sheet to provide discrete
3 patches of ink.

1 12. The method of claim 8 wherein the flooding of the release
2 sheet with ink is by simultaneously screenprinting all of the discrete ink patches on
3 the release sheet.

1 13. The method of making a readily weedable heat applied
2 graphic comprising:
3 providing a release sheet coated on one surface with an ink
4 layer; and
5 kiss-cutting through the ink layer to the coated surface of the
6 release sheet with a laser cutter and adjusting the power to singe the
7 cut edges of the ink whereby they are readily visible for weeding.

1 14. The method of making perfectly aligned and pre-spaced heat
2 transfer indicia on release sheets for application to fabrics or hard surfaces
3 comprising:
4 flooding the release surface of a release sheet with a plurality
5 of discrete congruent patches of heat transfer ink in the liquid
6 stage, such patches being so arranged on the sheet and separated
7 from each other that the sheet may be subsequently cut apart into
8 congruent sub-sheets with the patches congruently arranged
9 thereon;

10 while in the liquid stage applying to the exposed surface of
 11 the ink a thermoplastic adhesive;
 12 solidifying the ink;
 13 kiss-cutting through the ink to the release sheet in each patch
 14 to provide indicia arranged in the patches;
 15 cutting through the release sheet to provide a plurality of
 16 congruent sub-sheets having heat transfer indicia thereon; and
 17 weeding unwanted material from each patch.

1 15. The method of claim 8 wherein the cutting through the release
 2 sheet is so arranged with respect to the patches that the distances between the
 3 margins of the sub-sheets and the patches is equal.

1 16. The method of claim 8 wherein the indicia kiss-cut in each
 2 patch comprises a plurality of letters and/or numbers spaced in predetermined
 3 relation to each other.

1 17. The method of decorating fabrics or hard surfaces with a
 2 plurality of indicia accurately spaced apart and accurately positioned thereon
 3 comprising:

4 screenprinting the release surface of a paper release sheet
 5 with a plurality of discrete congruent patches of heat transfer ink, the
 6 patches being so arranged on the sheet and separated from each other
 7 that the sheet may be subsequently cut apart into congruent sub-
 8 sheets with the patches congruently arranged thereon;

9 while in the liquid stage applying to the exposed surfaces of
 10 the ink patches a thermoplastic adhesive;
 11 solidifying the ink;

12 kiss-cutting with a laser through the ink to the release sheet
 13 in each patch to provide identical indicia congruently arranged in the
 14 patches;

15 cutting through the release sheet to provide a plurality of
 16 congruent sub-sheets having heat transfer indicia thereon;

17 weeding unwanted ink from each of the sub-sheets; and
18 positioning each sub-sheet on the fabric or hard surface with
19 the adhesive there against and heat sealing the indicia thereto.

1 18. Graphics for heat seal application to fabrics or hard surfaces
2 comprising:
3 a paper release sheet having a release coating on one surface thereof;
4 an ink layer on the release coated side of the release sheet
5 spaced uniformly from the marginal edges of the sheet;
6 a heat responsive adhesive coating on the exposed surface of
7 the ink layer for adhering the layer to a fabric or hard surface; and
8 indicia kiss-cut in the adhesive and ink layer down to the
9 release coating with the cut outlined by a singeing of the exposed
10 surface of the ink layer.

1 19. The graphics of claim 18 wherein the ink layer comprises a
2 plurality of identical discrete ink patches on the release sheet uniformly spaced from
3 the marginal edges of the release sheet and the indicia is uniformly positioned on
4 the patches in determined spaced relation from the edges of the patches.